

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
PARAGUAY BUREAU
ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

MPY-6001
9 January 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau --
December 1985

I. GENERAL

Following a briefing by the chief on Paraguay Bureau concerns related to our local employees, Ambassador Taylor made it a priority project for the JAO to investigate alternatives to the current IPS (Instituto de Prevision Social) retirement and health care system. This is a program that all locals hired by the Mission since October 1981 have had to join in lieu of the Civil Service Retirement program. The final outcome of this investigation may result in some sort of third-party arrangement; for example, a provident fund similar to those used at other U.S. overseas missions. The bureau considers this to be a very positive development as IPS leaves much to be desired and has caused problems in hiring and great concern among new bureau employees.

At the end of November, the Embassy announced the results of a salary review. This survey was required by the recent 9-percent emergency salary increase granted to Embassy personnel because of the drastic increase in the Paraguayan cost of living. The result of the review was an additional 0.9-percent increase plus an additional fixed amount of 34,000 guaranies per year. The bureau has forwarded the composite personnel action to Headquarters for Director/FBIS signature.

Ambassador Taylor and his wife visited the bureau on 24 December to wish all FBIS employees a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. On Sunday the 1st of December the bureau staffed a morning shift to cover a speech Argentine President Raul Alfonsin made to the closing session of the ruling Radical Civic Union (UCR) National Committee meeting in Buenos Aires. On the 9th, the state of siege that the government imposed on 25 October was lifted, and that same

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day nine former Armed Forces commanders, among them two former presidents, convicted of committing crimes while repressing subversion under the military regimes received sentences ranging from 4 and 1/2 years to life. The proceedings were broadcast live by Buenos Aires Television and the bureau sent a VSL and the videotape to headquarters.

2. The most important event in Chile this month was the complete rejection by President Pinochet and his government of the opposition coalition's National Accord for the Transition to Full Democracy. The government rejected the Accord only hours after opposition members delivered a copy of it to the Interior Ministry under secretary, instead of to the minister as was scheduled. Pinochet's complete rejection of the Accord prompted statements of dismay and anger from all points of the political spectrum. As the month closed, opposition figures were calling for a major nationwide work stoppage and a campaign of civil disobedience.

3. Interest in Paraguay was high this month because of a scandal linking high-level government officials and military men to the illegal acquisition of foreign currency at preferential rates. On the 16th, two criminal court judges said there was sufficient evidence to charge Central Bank President Cesar Romeo Acosta, a member of the Council of State, with involvement in currency fraud. The investigations into the case have slowed, however, because, according to the press, Acosta enjoys immunity and the judicial branch has gone into its regular summer recess. Taking a harder line than usual against journalists who do not reflect the government's sentiments, police on the 2d detained Radio Nanduti Director Humberto Rubin and questioned him for 3 days. Col Don Stevens, U.S. Defense Attaché, on the 20th visited the bureau to view a video of President Stroessner meeting with other defense attaches.

4. Peruvian President Alan Garcia on the 27th ordered the state oil company to take control of the facilities of Belco Petroleum, a U.S. company, because no agreement had been reached in the renegotiation of operation contracts which the government revoked on 26 August. Agreement was reached, however, with the U.S. company Occidental Petroleum and with Oxy-Bridas, a U.S.-Argentine consortium. In a press conference with Peruvian journalists following the takeover of Belco, Garcia warned that there would be more investigations of foreign companies, including one into the Southern Peru Copper Corporation, another U.S. company and the largest mining company in the country.

5. As part of its political opening following 12 years of military rule, Uruguay on the 14th announced that diplomatic relations would be resumed with the PRC in 1986. Formal relations were reestablished with Cuba on the 19th after a 21-year hiatus.

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B. Lateral Services

The press officer at the American Embassy in La Paz called the bureau on the 3d to request, in the name of the Ambassador, that we file Bolivian narcotics items directly to the State Department. He was told that Liaison and Requirements Branch would first have to coordinate his request with State. He stated that the La Paz Embassy "highly appreciates" the bureau's file.

C. Cruising

The cruiser gathered information on television programming in the bureau's coverage area in response to a request from Panama Bureau. He also made observations on Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia, Buenos Aires Domestic Service, and Bolivian and Peruvian stations.

D. Technical

1. The technicians made considerable progress in preparation for the installation in late January - early February of the bureau's ROSET. New trenches were dug in Main Radio and in the Monitorial Room. The trench in Main Radio will accommodate the video, audio, and power cabling for the new Roset equipment racks, and the trench in the Monitorial Room will house the cabling for the future television-monitoring booth. The plans for the new TV booth drawn by a local contractor were approved. The booth will include two viewing positions and accommodate six television sets and the necessary equipment. One of the two positions will be equipped with a radio, giving the bureau added flexibility.

2. The bureau received from Tel Aviv Bureau four Collins receivers and four remote head controls. They were bench-tested and temporarily connected to the remote system to ensure they were in good operating condition. This equipment is part of the remote system expansion, increasing from 6 to 12 the monitorial positions that can independently tune the receivers at the remote ANTELCO site. This project should be completed by the end of February.

III. ADMINISTRATION

STAT 1. On the 16th the Bureau Chief called a party ostensibly to say farewell before departing on a month's leave to the States but really to announce the promotion to GS-13 of Deputy Chief [redacted]
STAT [redacted] The party was attended by Ambassador Taylor, DCM Dan Clare, and other Embassy officers.

STAT 2. Associate Editor trainee [redacted] EOD'd on the
STAT 23d. [redacted]
STAT [redacted]

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IV. VISITS

STAT 1. Junior Editor [redacted] returned to duty on the 7th following extended leave during which she had a baby and traveled to the States on R&R.

STAT 2. TDY'er [redacted] who filled in for [redacted] departed Asuncion on the 14th.

STAT 3. Deputy Chief [redacted] returned from R&R on the 13th.

STAT 4. Bureau Chief [redacted] departed post on the 17th for annual leave in the States.

V. COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Flooded out by a torrential rain storm on the 15th, bureau employees regrouped on the 22d for an office Christmas party hosted by the bureau chief at the home of Senior Editor [redacted] and

[redacted] Undaunted by the 100 plus degree heat, [redacted] and her band of volunteers served up turkey dinner with all the trimmings as well as many Paraguayan specialities delivered by bureau wives. The multitude of children (around 30) enjoyed the cool of the swimming pool and ate hot dogs roasted -- and sometimes burned -- by the men of the bureau. This was all done to the melodies provided by a Paraguayan organist who played throughout the afternoon.

STAT [redacted]

A/Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau
Key West Bureau

Attachments: Monthly Production Report

Paraguay Bureau Production Report for December 1985

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	246380
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	75690
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	773

	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	8095.00 min.	40770.00 min.	178.23 issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish	4370
Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish	4170
Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish	2220
Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish	12960
Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish	12840
Buenos Aires AMBITO FINANCIERO in Spanish	0
Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English	8710
Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish	3960
Buenos Aires GENTE in Spanish	0
Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish	6000
Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish	1270

BOLIVIA

La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish	10010
La Paz Radio Illimani in Spanish	1230
La Paz El Diario in Spanish	1370
La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish	4400

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	BROADCASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
BRASIL			
Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese	2480		
Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese	2500		
Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese	820		
Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese			3760
Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English			660
Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese			1750
Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese			4830
Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			9370
Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			9530
Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese			0
CHILE			
Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish	14200		
Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish	17950		
Santiago ANALISIS in Spanish			6500
Santiago CAUCE in Spanish			2060
Santiago COSAS in Spanish			0
Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish			9390
Santiago HOY in Spanish			780
Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish			430
Santiago MENSAJE in Spanish			0
Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish			0

CHINA

Beijing Beijing in

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	BROAD-CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI-CATIONS
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in Spanish			33940
PARAGUAY			
Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television in Spanish	80		
Asuncion Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish	260		
Asuncion Red Privada de Telefusora Paraguaya Television in Spanish	70		
Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish			950
Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish			0
Asuncion HOY in Spanish			1050
Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish			780
Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish			1800
Asuncion SENDERO in Spanish			0
Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish			2450
PERU			
Lima America Television in Spanish	440		
Lima Canal 9 Television in Spanish	50		
Lima Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
Lima Latinoamericana Television in Spanish	2260		
Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	1990		
Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish	0		
Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish	320		

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	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	1980		
Lima CARETAS in Spanish	0		
Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish	2170		
Lima EL DIARIO MARKA in Spanish	0		
Lima EXPRESO Spanish	1960		
Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish	4940		
 SPAIN			
Madrid EFE in Spanish	18600		
 URUGUAY			
Montevideo Domestic Service in Spanish	0		
Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish	2500		
Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish	0		
Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish	230		
Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish	3020		
 USSR			
Moscow Radio Magallanes in Spanish	1670		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America	530		
Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Latin America	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Chile	1820		
Moscow in Spanish to Cuba	0		